

Serial No. 09/992,995

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are currently pending for consideration. All stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection as further detailed below.


The Office Action states that claim 2 depends from claim 1 and recites a connector base that may consist of a polyisocyanate, however, claim 1 requires a connector base to comprise a resin and the examiner is unable to find in the specification a polyisocyanate that is also a resin. The Office Action then concludes that it is therefore unclear what the connector base is intended to be. In response the Applicants direct attention to the application at page 9, lines 6 through 14 for some examples of polyisocyanates that are resins, for example, the reaction product of 3 moles of m-tetramethylxylene diisocyanate with 1 mole of trimethylol propane, the reaction product of 3 moles of toluene diisocyanate with 1 mole trimethylol propane, and the isocyanurate of hexamethylene diisocyanate. On this basis, the Applicants submit that the specification discloses polyisocyanates that are resins, meeting the 35 USC 112, second paragraph concerns expressed in the Office Action.

The Office Action also states that claim 4 depends on claim 1 and recites 0-20 wt.% of a compatible resin. According to the Office Action, this contradicts the requirement of claim 1 of a resin in the connector base. In response the Applicants note that claim 4 is drawn to toner base (A) and connector base (B) together. If connector base (B) comprises a cellulose resin, an acrylic polyol and/or a polyester polyol, (see, for example, the application at page 3, lines 3-26) that resin in (B) is already included in the first three components of claim 4 (since the claim is to (A) and (B) together). Accordingly, in such a case, the "compatible resin" in claim 4 is zero, and claim 4 would not contradict claim 1.

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In view of the comments above, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below if thought helpful in the progress the case.

Respectfully submitted,



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